

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9101
INFO USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY DOHA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 6115

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, IZ, SA, IR
SUBJ: NY TIMES ARTICLE ON GULF SECURITY DISCUSSIONS

REF: STATE 156769, PARIS 19931 (NOTAL, TEHRAN 4501 (NOTAL)

1. WE AGREE WITH PARIS REFTEL THAT THERE IS NOTHING NEW OF
SUBSTANCE IN FLORA LEWIS' ARTICLE. BY COINCIDENCE OR NOT
PRIME MINISTER AMOUZEGAR SAID AS MUCH TO THE KUWAITI NEWS-
PAPER "AS SIYASSA," IN INTEVIEW WHICH IS CARRIED IN TEHRAN PRESS JUNE
26.

AMOUZEGAR IS REPORTED TO HAVE TOLD THAT NEWSPEPAR THAT IRAQ,
SAUDI ARABIA, AS WELL AS THE OTHER PERSIAN GULF COUNTRIES, HAVE
REACHED A DEADLOCK IN NEGOTIATIONS TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON
PERSIAN GULF SECURITY. CONTACTS HAVE BEEN MADE
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BETWEEN IRAN AND OTHER PERSIAN GULF COUNTRIES ON THE POSSI-
BILITIES OF REACHING A DEFENSE PACE OR ESTABLISHING COORDINATION
AMONG IRAN, SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAQ, BUT ALL OF THESE CON-
TACTS HAVE NOW STOPPED. AMOUZEGAR IS QUOTED AS SAYING:
"IRAN HAS BECOME WEARY OF TAKING THE INITIATIVE IN PROPOSING
COMMON PERSIAN GULF COORDINATION PLANS AND NOT RECEIVING
ANY AGREEABLE ANSWERS FROM THE PERSIAN GULF ARAB STATES."

2. THIS CONFIRMS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT DISCUSSIONS BEING REFERRED TO ARE EITHER THE OLD ONES DATING BACK MANY MONTHS AND EVEN YEARS OR MORE RECENT ONES REFERRED TO TEHRAN REFTEL BETWEEN IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA PRIMARILY WHICH WOULD APPEAR TO FOCUS ON PROTECTION AGAINST SABOTAGE TO OIL FIELDS RATHER THAN BROADER ISSUES OF GULF SECURITY. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE SUBJECT HAS BEEN BROACHED RECENTLY IN CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ, WHICH GO ON FREQUENTLY, THOUGH ALL OUR MFA SOURCES DENY IT. IT IS QUITE CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT IRAQ HAS NOT CHANGED ITS APPROACH ON THIS ISSUE, AS NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE WOULD IMPLY, AND THEREFORE WE ARE LEFT WITH IRAN PUSHING THE IDEA AS IT ALWAYS HAS BUT NONE OF THE OTHERS RESPONDING IN ANY SIGNIFICANT WAY, AS THEY ALWAYS HAVE FAILED TO RESPOND.

3. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF IRAQI NAVY BUILDING PROGRAMS, THOUGH THAT WOULD LEND ITSELF TO VARIOUS INTERPRETATIONS IF TRUE. IN OUR MOST RECENT CONVERSATION AT THE MFA ON THIS SUBJECT, DEPARTMENT HEAD TOLD POLCOUNTS THAT THE IRAQIS HAD PRESSED KUWAIT AGAIN DURING RECENT BILATERALS ON AN IRAQ-KUWAIT SECURITY AGREEMENT, BUT KUWAITIS STILL RESIST IT. THE SEVERAL SAUDI COMINGS AND GOINGS HERE HAVE SO FAR NOT RESULTED IN ANYTHING SPECIFIC, AND THE SHAH'S WELL-KNOWN DESIRE TO HELP WEAN IRAQ FROM THE CLOSE SOVIET EMBRACE HAVE NOT FOUND EXPRESSION, AS FAR AS WE KNOW, IN ANY SPECIFIC

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NEW POLITICAL AGREEMENTS OR ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.
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